

SITUATION REPORT NO 4
INCIDENT NO. 96-01
DATE: February 20, 1996 TIME: 4:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring Flood.
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGE: The level of Devils Lake on February 19, 1996 was 1435.18 feet M.S.L.
4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: The National Weather Service issued the spring snowmelt flood outlook on February 16, 1996. The outlook is assuming normal precipitation and temperature patterns during the melt period. It is based on the current knowledge of existing snow cover, soil moisture, and ice and river conditions. The outlook is for Devils Lake to reach a peak elevation of 1437.5 to 1438 feet M.S.L. in June or early July. The flood potential for the Red River and its tributaries which includes the Sheyenne River is "high." The flood potential is "moderate" for the Souris River in the United States. "Minor" to "moderate" flooding is expected for the James River in North Dakota. Flooding at the junction of the Missouri River and Yellowstone River is being affected by high flows and ice jams. Daily flood statements are currently being issued.

The Ramsey County Board of County Commissioners issued an Emergency Resolution on February 16, 1996 as a result of the spring snowmelt flood outlook. The resolution ordered the activation and utilization of the County Emergency Operations Plan to: monitor the situation; develop a detailed damage assessment; alleviate hardship; and initiate appropriate relief actions and mitigation measures by departments and agencies of local government. The Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners and the Ramsey County emergency manager have scheduled a plan activation briefing for all Ramsey County functional and task coordinators on February 27, 1996 at 5:00 p.m.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) personnel will conduct agent/lender training on the NFIP in Minot April 18, 1996.

A town meeting will be held in Devils Lake on February 23, at 9:00 a.m. at Lake Region Community College in conjunction with the FEMA Interagency Task Force Meeting. The meeting will provide a forum to discuss

measures and plans to deal with predicted Devils Lake levels, for 1996 in a cooperative and coordinated manner. The meeting will be moderated by Mike Armstrong, FEMA Region VIII Director. The Governor, congressional delegation, and representatives of several local, state, and federal organizations will participate.

Flood preparedness meetings sponsored by the St. Paul District Corps of Engineers and the ND Division of Emergency Management, for state, local, and public interests are scheduled for: March 11, 1996 at 1:30 p.m. at the Ramsey County Courthouse Meeting Room; and at 7:00 p.m. at the Grand Forks Civic Auditorium; and at the Fargo Regional Training Center, March 12, at 10:00 a.m.

Elaine McReynolds, administrator of the National Flood Insurance Program, visited Devils Lake on February 15, 1996, concerning flood insurance claims. Two meetings were held, one with home owners, and another with insurance agents and insurance adjusters.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: None at this time.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: The next State Flood Coordination Center Meeting will be held Wednesday, February 28, 1996 at 9:00 a.m. at the Ramsey County Courthouse basement meeting room.

Incident Number 96-01 situation reports will no longer include information on public assistance or disaster unemployment status for FEMA-1050-DR-ND. Detailed information on 1995 disaster recovery status is available from the ND Division of Emergency Management.

In Situation Report number 3, Incident number 96-01 dated February 6, 1996, it was reported Benson County had 144 paid NFIP paid losses. The correct number is 14.

Williams County officials are closely monitoring the Yellowstone and Missouri River levels. Farmers in the Buford bottoms have started to move cattle to higher ground in anticipation of ice-jams developing on the Yellowstone River causing flooding.

Richland County was designated eligible for Emergency Loan Assistance through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) effective January 5, 1996, in accordance with Public Law 98-258 because it is contiguous to counties in Minnesota that were designated as USDA natural disaster areas due to a severe ice storm which occurred on October 23-24, 1995. Emergency loan applications may be received by the Farm Service Agency through September 5, 1996 for physical and production losses.

Signed _____
Douglas C. Friez, State Director